

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

July 18, 2005

**Aldermen Sysyn, Guinta,
Smith, Forest, O'Neil**

6:15 PM

**Aldermanic Chambers
City Hall (3rd Floor)**

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Guinta (late), Smith, Forest

Absent: Alderman O'Neil

Messrs.: R. Stephen, T. Lolicata, R. Charpentier, D. Smart

Chairman Sysyn stated I am going to take item 7 first.

Communication from Attorney Robert Stephen requesting two (2) parking permits in the Middle Street Parking Lot.

Attorney Robert Stephen stated thank you for having me here and thank you for taking me first. I am finishing up on a Master's program and I have two classes left so I have to run to class after this. I recently opened a new law practice at the old McQuade's building on Elm Street with my affiliate firm, Shaheen & Gordon. As I am sure the Committee is aware, Bill Shaheen has been a community-minded citizen in the state for many years, as has my family and we have begun a law practice as I mentioned and we hope to continue in the ways of community service. In order to run that practice we were hoping to have a couple of parking spots in the Middle Street lot. Two for Shaheen & Gordon and one for the Stephen Law Group. Essentially that would help us run our practices and we hope to do a lot of good for the City and for the citizens overall. Basically that is all I had. I do appreciate your consideration of our request.

Alderman Sysyn asked so you are looking for three parking spots then.

Atty. Stephen answered I am looking for two in the name of Shaheen & Gordon, which has an Elm Street address and one in the name of the Stephen Law Group. Even though my letter indicates we are asking for two, I am actually asking for three tonight if that is possible.

Chairman Sysyn stated if you do get a parking permit in that lot it doesn't have your name on any spot. You go in and find whatever spot is available. Just so you understand that.

Tom Lolicata, Traffic Director, stated what we have there now are six spots I believe. We have two tenants and they each have three spots a piece. I have to put permit parking in those spots. So there will be a placard or something so he will know where he can park and he can have the spots if it goes through.

Chairman Sysyn asked what is the other business besides That Look.

Mr. Lolicata answered Ron Elias has three and I believe Little Saigon has three. This is the first time we have done this in years.

Alderman Forest moved to have Atty. Stephens and Tom Lolicata work something out. Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from Richard Charpentier, President of Amoskeag Terrace Condo Association, requesting to appear before the Committee to provide neighborhood/abutter input regarding the traffic situation on Kidder Street.

Richard Charpentier stated I am a resident of Ward 9 and reside at 99 Kidder Street. I am appearing before you tonight simply to provide some information. I have no specific request. As you know Kidder Street is the main street affected by the construction at Bridge and Elm. We have been living with the situation now for several months and the frustration level among our residents has reached a peak. We feel there are many safety issues and quality of life issues, which we want to make the Board aware of and at some point we will come forward with a proposal or a request. There are several cars that are parked illegally on Kidder Street. There are whatever the number of meters there are located there and the workers from the construction company and subcontractors probably pile four or more cars than are meters, which is fine except that they don't put money in the meters and there are no parking permits on the cars. Those are fine except that where it says no parking here to corner they park a couple of cars and in several situations the cars that they park are partially blocking our driveways or alleyways or whatever you want to call them. We have three alleyways that are connected with Amoskeag Place. One of them being Hampshire Lane, which is a public way we understand and we have no control or direction over that. The other two are private ways. As a result of the traffic, our residents leaving our alleyways have a problem getting around the cars that are parked illegally. We have already had

two accidents. There was one the other day when somebody who was not a resident was cutting through and in making the corner ran into one of the pieces of equipment that was out there. We are concerned about the trespassing. Cars are constantly driving those two private ways. One of the reasons is that Kidder Street, at least in our mind doesn't appear to be fish or fowl. We agreed several months ago to cooperate with the construction company and not park there although we have resident parking permits. So what happens is they come in and they park all of their cars on Kidder Street, which now raises the question if they are going to do it why shouldn't we? We have tried to, as I said, stay out of their way. It creates a hassle because there are limited parking spots on Hollis and for those who can't park on Kidder they go over on Hollis but the ones on Hollis make sure they have parking permits. Kidder Street is...as I said today we are not sure if it is fish or fowl because it doesn't appear to be policed. There do not appear to be parking tickets issued if they are parked illegally or even if they are just parked with no money in the meter. Quality of life issues. Work times. We have had one resident move because of the noise issues. They complained constantly over the last several months and finally gave up and on July 1 moved out. The work time and the noise begins quite early in the morning. The dust on Kidder Street is another issue. Quite often we have seen construction places where there is traffic on a street like that and every once in awhile some kind of a water truck goes by to keep the dust out. There is no such thing that happens. Kidder Street, after having been torn up three times, is just a dust bowl. We have suffered through the water main changes. Water Works told us we would be on water bypass for two weeks and it was really six weeks. The gas company has torn up the street and yet to come I understand the phone company is still to come in. The stench...as you know they use the portable toilets. I am not sure how often they empty them but with the mugginess of the last several days and weeks we have had a problem with those. Track pick up. Because of the cars being illegally parked and the construction on Kidder Street every second or third week we have had to call the Highway Department to come back and pick up trash that they don't pick up on Monday. Other issues. Looking ahead we are concerned about the Kidder Street direction. We went back and looked quickly at the parking studies that were done in 2002 by CLD. There were some comments in there about there not being a problem on Kidder Street because Kidder Street is a two-way and the perception that people cut through the alleyways is just that, a perception. Well, we beg to differ. It is more than a perception. So we are taking another look at that to make sure that whatever happens going forward we have some input into. Parking meters on Kidder Street have been abused. I think every one of them is now leaning in one direction or another and that is mainly because of the small area that the construction company has to work with. We are also concerned with the parking garage and the noise. We were told that the parking garage is not in keeping with what exactly had been designed originally or what had been told to us and where we thought there would be a reduction in noise from

Bridge Street and the passing motorcycles has really increased. So those are my comments. Again it is just to make you aware. We would like to come back with some thoughts on Kidder Street. We at one time had talked about the problem with the limited parking spaces on both Kidder and Hollis Streets and our permits allowing us to park only on Kidder and Hollis. Once 300 cars are added to the parking garage and 200 apartments there is going to be a problem with parking and guest parking. Thank you for the time, Madame Chair.

Chairman Sysyn stated we have a policeman here. I think we need more enforcement in your area.

Mr. Charpentier stated I do have two pictures that I would like to leave with you.

Officer Brian Blais, Traffic Division, stated I am here tonight representing Lt. Valenti who had an appointment. He did speak with me regarding part of this situation. We did start taking enforcement action. We went down today and spoke with the foreman. The foreman informed Lt. Valenti that at this time they have a new influx of construction employees working and they change depending on what part of a job they are doing throughout the building. They are going to try to get them parking passes for other parts of the City whether it be on Canal Street or Bedford Street or even the Hartnett or Pearl Street parking lot. They went down and did do enforcement today. They tagged all of the illegally parked cars that were down there today and our recommendation to the Committee is that we are going to work with the residents of that area. I wasn't aware that they were using the driveways as a cut through. That is another area we have to look at and I will mention that to Lt. Valenti who will try to work with the construction company and the residents to make sure that some action is taken.

Alderman Forest stated I don't know whether it is going to be next month or the month after but I understand the work is pretty much going to be done by December or January there. That is probably one conciliation. Last week I spoke to Peter Capano of the Highway Department regarding the condition of the road. That is supposed to be taken care of. So some of your problems can probably get resolved in a short period of time. Construction is always tough for residents of a neighborhood and I am glad you showed up and let us know some of the other problems. I know Alderman Guinta spoke about those alleyways many months ago and apparently that hasn't been resolved yet. We will see what we can do for you.

Alderman Smith stated I happened to have been in construction. I was an inspector for the City. I don't know who the consultant is representing the City's interest in that project. Do you know?

Alderman Forest responded I believe it is Peter Capano who is overseeing the project.

Alderman Smith stated if it is Peter Capano I will speak to him personally but I did take a ride up there today and the dust was unbelievable. Even though the road is blocked off I took a ride up there and I can't believe that they can't put down calcium chloride or something like that to keep the dust down and have it swept on a daily basis. I am just looking at these pictures and you are absolutely right. I will talk to Peter Capano tomorrow. He was my boss back years ago and I will see what can be done and find out who is representing the City of Manchester's interest in that project.

Alderman Forest stated on this picture what you don't see is west of these vehicles that road is pretty well torn up. I know Peter said he was going to get in touch with the construction company to either put asphalt there or clean it up a bit. I go by there every day and my four wheel drive is taking a beating. Peter said he would take care of that for us.

Alderman Guinta stated I think everyone knows or if you don't I am a neighbor of Dick's and I reside in that same condo complex. Just a couple of things that I would add. The condo association and the neighborhood has been from Day 1 very supportive of this project and has done I think everything that residents should and could do when it comes to working and dealing with the issues and obstacles of new development. Prior to the passage of this project, neighbors had several meetings with CLD and Brian Dacy and others and there was significant residential participation. I was very pleased with how the development and the residents were working together to try to identify potential issues and how to resolve them before they became problematic. There is a whole range of age groups of people who live in that area so there are different...you know I have two small kids and there are elderly people who live in that area. There is just a whole range of people and by and large the neighborhood has been, I would say passive, in dealing with the frustration but it has grown to a point where there are a number of unacceptable issues that continue. Now there was a time a few months ago when I made some inquiries and things got a little bit better and Dick, I know, mentioned that there is a change in the workforce but that shouldn't really excuse some of the changes that have happened, particularly with the cut throughs and with people parking all along that street. There have been times when people have been verbally abusive to me. They don't know who I am and I don't make it an issue. It is frustrating to live there and nobody wants to see the project end. They don't want to be an obstacle to the project but what they do want are the assurances that were provided to them as residents that the construction company and the people working there would do everything they could to make life peaceful for everybody. The issues that I see that are extremely important right

now and Dick touched on all of the issues...I do think that people are starting, I believe the ordinance says you can't start work before 7 AM. Is that correct? They are in there before 7 AM. I wake up and my kids wake up pretty early – 5 AM or 5:30 AM and I know people are walking in there. I don't know if they are actually starting. I am on the far end so I am somewhat shielded by the condo building but I have been up at 5 and 5:30 AM and I see workers parking on Hollis and on Kidder and going in. That right there, let's just enforce that law. The dust is awful. In the summer time people have their windows open. Not everybody has central air or air conditioned units so people have their windows open and the amount of dust that is inside the homes, and I have been in a number of them, is significant. Parking illegally...I mean the picture that Dick gave to us one of the cars is not quite perpendicular to the others but maneuvered so he can fit in a spot where there is really not enough room to fit. That is a hazard for people who work at ADP and is it just a general hazard. The car shouldn't be there in the first place and that is something that I mentioned in the past. There was a time that it was dealt with and you saw people parking elsewhere. Tom did a good job of getting on that but there is no reason that when there is a change in the type of work or the companies that are there that the overall construction manager couldn't just say look here are the rules and regulations and make sure you adhere to them. Again, I go back to a time when the residents were meeting on a fairly consistent and regular basis with the engineers and the construction company and the development company to talk about these anticipated issues. You don't have a situation where residents are obstructionists. They are looking to support this project. They have supported this project and they would like to see it come to fruition but they would like the consideration that they have asked for and were promised seen through. With respect to the actual building itself, the parking garage is an issue. What you see today versus what we were told was going to be billed are two very different looking structures. One of the very important issues that we always talked about was keeping a certain aesthetic integrity with the mills. ADP is a brick building and Amoskeag Row House is brick buildings and all of the row houses are brick buildings and you can see on the front of the building where it is brick but the parking structure looks totally different than the original schematics. I know that is not something for you to address but I think it should be something for Peter to address. That is sort of a separate...that is a construction issue but in terms of enforcement I would certainly appreciate anything that can be done. Generally speaking, the residents have been very happy and very willing to work with the company. I think they have done the right thing in how to approach it. They are simply asking for nothing more than what they were promised at the beginning of the project.

Chairman Sysyn stated I think we should probably refer some of these comments to the Police Department and Peter Capano at the Highway Department.

Alderman Smith stated well the police officer is here and I think he will do his due diligence as far as parking control and so forth and I will talk to Peter Capano to see if he is the representative for the City. If he is, I will express my opinion. I know I went up there today and it is a dust bowl, no question about it. It can be swept up and cleaned up for the residents so they don't have to go through this.

Alderman Guinta asked would it be appropriate and I don't know if it would be Peter or the City but could someone acknowledge in writing even if just one copy is sent but I would like the residents to know that Dick was here and that those issues are being responded to. So if there is some way...the condo association has monthly meetings and he can report in the next meeting and I would like the residents to know that the City is being responsive to the issues so if we could somehow get something in writing to Dick I would appreciate that.

Alderman Smith stated what I can do is after I talk to Peter Capano and find out who is actually in charge I can have him talk to Dick Charpentier.

On motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta it was voted to receive and file.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from Leo Bernier, City Clerk, suggesting the Committee revisit the use of parking placards by various city departments.

Chairman Sysyn stated I just noticed more of these placards around the City since Leo pointed it out.

City Clerk Bernier stated several weeks ago I talked to Alderman Sysyn and requested that at the next Traffic meeting we sit down and talk about this. There are a number of people, elected officials and people who work for the City that have a difficult time finding a parking space. I would say in the last month or so I have seen that there are placards that are put on people's cars and they get free parking. Now the City Clerk's Office has one for John Sysyn but the Assessors also have them and we are not sure who is authorizing them. I was telling Alderman Sysyn that I could do an inventory of what is out there and come up with a proposal. I know that Diane Prew will speak for herself but I know that individuals from her staff that come and do services at City Hall have to put money in the meter and I think there are a number of organizations like the Arts Commission and we have John who is going to be talking about the cemetery in a few minutes. He has a placard and we are not really sure where that was generated from but we need to set up a system so that the Traffic Committee knows how much activity is out there. My suggestion is that we can identify

certain areas around City Hall where these people can park for a short term. Again, the parking control officers have talked to me about a number of people who put a placard and by that I mean a City Seal but a homemade placard and they are not being tagged. I am just here to bring this to your attention. As time goes on it seems like there are more and more placards out there.

Chairman Sysyn stated I think we should refer this to the City Clerk's Office so they can come back to us with some kind of suggestions and let us know who has them and where we are going with this.

Alderman Forest stated I have seen a few. There are some out in the alley and I have seen some down on Middle Street and Market Street. Maybe one suggestion is that we...I think I saw one for the Assessors Office. Maybe we can design one similar for each office like the ones we have for our vehicles with the department listed on it.

City Clerk Bernier responded I think there are a number of individuals that volunteer their time and employees who do business in the City of Manchester and I think there are suggestions that we can come up with. I also think that the Committee should be able to regulate or I could introduce a policy to regulate this activity. What is happening is you have elected officials and people who come to City Hall to do business at City Hall. I have parking attendants talking to me and it is an issue that is going to boil over and I think we need a plan.

Alderman Forest stated I know there are a lot of City employees that go from one department to another and use their own vehicles and it is difficult for them if they are going to get \$10 tickets every time they come here.

Alderman Forest moved to refer this issue to the City Clerk's Office and have them report back with suggestions.

Diane Prew, Director, Information Systems stated we are looking to be able to make the staff more efficient because they have many stops that they make. A certain portion of my staff is out all day long going from department to department so we are looking to make them a little bit more efficient if that is possible and that is why our request is here.

Alderman Smith asked what is the...I think the City has a policy not to use private vehicles for City business.

Ms. Prew answered well if that is the case then we are going to need additional vehicles. We have one van that we use right now to transport our equipment but

we have as I said in my letter about 80 sites that we service and 1/3 of the staff that is pretty much consistently out in the departments.

Alderman Smith stated I am bringing this up for insurance. Say an individual is driving his private car and he gets into an accident. We have to think this out.

Ms. Prew responded we do pay the mileage. That is why we originally...we don't want the employee to be transporting the equipment, which is why we have the van but there are many trips where they go out to address problems within the department.

Alderman Forest stated I don't think they are the only department where employees are using their own vehicles. I think it would cost the City a lot more money if we had to furnish City vehicles for everyone in the departments that uses their own.

Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Communication from Stephan Lewy recommending changes to handicapped parking, crosswalks and curbing in the vicinity of 1650 Elm Street.

Alderman Guinta asked are they looking for additional parking on Elm Street because there is insufficient parking provided by the building itself. It sounds like the real issue is the building has medical offices and is not properly equipped to handle disabled patients. I wonder if we can just talk to the building owner. A couple of these things are real simple. There is an elevator inside but in order to get to the elevator you have to go up one step. If you put a ramp in that is a lot easier than what they are looking to do which is to take spaces away from Elm Street, which I think would be less safe with the kind of traffic you are seeing on Elm Street now. There is parking available in the garage they just have problems accessing the elevator. The Disability Act would require that a building that houses medical...well any building has to be handicapped accessible. If we just have a ramp in there that is probably \$100 and that is that.

Chairman Sysyn asked Tom there is a law that says they have to have a ramp isn't there.

Alderman Guinta stated in order to get a permit these days you have to be handicapped accessible. It really sounds like all they are missing is the ramp to go up one step.

Alderman Forest asked is this the Bellman Building. They have a parking lot on the side I believe.

Alderman Guinta stated I thought it was underneath.

Alderman Forest responded it is on the side and underneath.

Alderman Guinta stated well all they really need is...they have an elevator. They just can't access the elevator because they can't lift up a wheelchair. If we put a ramp in they will be all set.

Mr. Lolicata stated it should be done privately if they are providing parking for these people. The City doesn't...if that was the case we would be doing it for everyone on Elm Street who wants it.

Alderman Guinta stated the other problem is it is just going to create more of a public safety issue if someone in a wheelchair is trying to get out of a car on Elm Street. They are talking about how busy it is over there because of Rite Aid and the bank, etc. I hope we can work with the owner...maybe the owner is already doing something. I don't know if there have been any requests to the owner of the building.

Mr. Lolicata responded I can check the intersection for crosswalks.

Alderman Forest stated there is no crosswalk there.

Alderman Guinta asked could we put one there.

Chairman Sysyn stated Tom can put one there.

Mr. Lolicata responded it depends on where it ends and where it goes to. I can take a look at it for you. Is that Sagamore?

Alderman Forest replied I think it is Penacook and the street south or north. It is right in the middle of where Rite Aid is across the street from Rite Aid.

Mr. Lolicata responded I will check for a crosswalk for you.

Chairman Sysyn stated so we will look into that and maybe we should have someone get in touch with the landlord. How are we going to do that?

Clerk Fysh stated possibly the Building Department could take care of that.

Alderman Smith stated disabled parking lots with zoning and so forth you are supposed to have so many disabled parking spots if you have a business. I recommend that we have Traffic and Building look into this and report back to the agencies that need help. It looks to me like it is the property owner's problem because he is looking for a main entrance in the middle of two intersections and the crosswalk is going to be in the middle of the business area.

On motion of Alderman Guinta, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to refer this issue to the Traffic and Building Departments.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Communication from Doug Smart requesting reimbursement of \$80.00 for his vehicle having been towed on July 9, 2005 from the Dunkin Donuts/St. Mary's Bank parking lots claiming the vehicle was illegally towed.

Chairman Sysyn stated Dunkin Donuts is a private lot. That would have nothing to do with the City.

Alderman Smith responded it certainly doesn't have anything to do with the City. That is a private lot. I would move to receive and file. I think the individual needs to go to the people who towed him. It is private property and it is either Dunkin Donuts or St. Mary's Bank and we have no responsibility to pay for the vehicle that was illegally towed.

Chairman Sysyn stated the only time the City tows is during a snow emergency and those types of things but the City did not authorize towing the car.

Alderman Guinta asked can we at least hear from the gentleman.

Doug Smart stated just to give you a brief synopsis of what happened, I came in for a Fisher Cats game and drove around trying to find a place to park. St. Mary's parking lot was full and I parked right in front of St. Mary's along with a few other cars. I was informed by the Police Department on Monday that a couple of other cars had also been towed from in front of St. Mary's. I think I realized that this isn't the place to come to get my \$80 back and that I will ultimately have to go to Dunkin Donuts but my problem lies with the fact that there are no signs posting indicating towing and ultimately I am trying to find out if there is a

law...according to the Police Department signs must be posted for towing at the entrance and exits of the lots. There was no sign. If there had been a sign anywhere in the St. Mary's or Dunkin Donuts lots about towing I would never have parked there and I would have found another spot. I just think it reflects poorly on the City of Manchester that private lots are towing cars without any signage posted. To come in for a game and you want people to come downtown if you park right in front of a lot with no signs or in a lot with no signs there should be some recourse whether it is small claims or whatever but they should be required, if they are going to patrol the lots, to actually post the signs.

Alderman Forest asked did you look for signs, Doug.

Mr. Smart answered yes. I actually have pictures. There are no signs.

Alderman Forest stated there are two. There is one screwed to the north side door of St. Mary's Bank that says "Customer Parking Only. Vehicles Will Be Towed at Customer's Expense"...

Mr. Smart interjected the north side door of St. Mary's.

Alderman Forest responded yes and it is in big, bright letters.

Mr. Smart asked is that on the right or the left.

Alderman Forest answered as you go in where St. Mary's is it is on the right hand side and if you look on the south side of Dunkin Donuts on the telephone pole there is a brown sign there that says "No Parking. Customer's Only". I don't know if you saw either one of them. I was there yesterday. So there are two signs on either side of the lot – St. Mary's and Dunkin Donuts that say "Customer Parking Only. Violators Will be Towed at Owners Expense."

Mr. Smart stated the one on the side of Dunkin Donuts has nothing indicating towing there. It says nothing about towing. I guess my point is it says police will take notice and you just told me it is not a police matter.

Alderman Forest replied it is not a police matter because it is private property. If you parked in my driveway for two hours I don't have a sign but I would tow you. That is what a lot of businesses do in the City. I don't think they are required to have a sign that says that they will tow you. I think it is common sense that you don't park your car for two hours on somebody's property.

Mr. Smart responded well in the St. Mary's lot on the side where you said there was a sign that said towing...

Alderman Forest interjected right on the door of St. Mary's Bank there is a big 2' x 3' sign in big red letters that says "Customer Parking Only. Violators Will be Towed At Owner's Expense." It is right there on the door. If you go and take a look you can take a picture of that one too. I was there yesterday. There is a sign there. You just didn't see it.

Mr. Smart replied I wasn't on that side of St. Mary's and the side where the Dunkin Donuts sign is is to the side and to the back of Dunkin Donuts and it doesn't indicate towing. If that is the case and there is no law that states a private law has to put up a sign...I guess me and a couple of other cars on the Dunkin Donuts side were...

Alderman Forest interjected I am not sure of the number but the RSA says they have a right to tow you. There is nothing that says they have to post it. Maybe the judges require it here but there is nothing in the RSA, which is a state law that says that they have to post it. It just states that they have the right to tow your vehicle if you are there illegally. Again, it is a private matter like Chairman Sysyn said. It is not City property. It wasn't done by the City and it is something you would have to take up with St. Mary's or Dunkin Donuts management. We can't force the tow truck company or them to give it back to you. You would have to discuss it with them.

Mr. Smart responded I realize that. I guess from what I am hearing I was considering taking Dunkin Donuts to small claims court and from what you are saying...

Alderman Forest interjected you can try. I am not sure you will win but you can try. It is only going to cost you \$10 or whatever it is to go through small claims. You can do it. You have the right to do it.

Mr. Smart stated it is actually \$55.

Alderman Guinta asked this was on a Saturday. What time of the day? Was it at night?

Mr. Smart answered I think I parked it there around 5:30 PM.

Alderman Guinta asked so the bank was closed.

Mr. Smart answered yes.

Alderman Guinta stated in the third paragraph of your letter it says that...it is the St. Mary's lot right.

Mr. Smart responded I brought pictures. Would you like to see them? According to Dunkin Donuts, it is the St. Mary's lot and according to St. Mary's as well but when St. Mary's closes it becomes the Dunkin Donut's lot. Dunkin Donuts only patrols that side of the St. Mary's lot. The side where you said there was a tow sign I was not parked on. I was parked on the side where the Dunkin Donuts is but directly in front.

Alderman Forest asked the tow company that towed you, were they called by Dunkin Donuts.

Mr. Smart answered according to Dunkin Donuts they have a standing contract with them although the employees at Dunkin Donuts would not admit to calling them. I heard some wild rumors from people who work at Dunkin Donuts and according to the people who were there they said they didn't call and the company just pulled into the lot. That was the same information I got from the Manchester Police Department. There were three people in our car and we drove around the Dunkin Donuts side and we all agreed that we were going to park in front of St. Mary's.

Alderman Forest asked could you stick around for a minute after the meeting. I would like to talk to you.

Alderman Guinta stated I always thought that was Dunkin Donuts.

Mr. Smart responded according to Dunkin Donuts it is the St. Mary's lot. They own it. When St. Mary's closes it becomes the Dunkin Donuts lot during non-St. Mary's hour and St. Mary's contracts with Dunkin Donuts to take care of that side of the lot for them.

Alderman Guinta asked so at 2 PM when people are going in there to get their coffee and I park there like everyone else, technically I am on St. Mary's property but I am going to Dunkin Donuts.

Mr. Smart answered if there had been a sign that said Dunkin Donuts parking after St. Mary's closed I would have said obviously it is the Dunkin Donuts parking lot.

Alderman Guinta stated it sounds like there are a couple of issues. It is a private lot whether it is owned by St. Mary's or Dunkin Donuts and if you are there for Dunkin Donuts or St. Mary's I could see the frustration. It sounds like you were there to go to a baseball game. I think the Committee is probably right. There is

probably not much authority that we have unless it was for us to require no parking or parking for customers only you will be towed and to make them more visible. I will agree with you. I go there all the time. It is not very visible but I also think there is a certain expectation that people would understand it is a private lot. I wish we could help you.

Mr. Smart stated it looked to me like there was a hole in the ground where there used to be a sign but some kids may have torn it down. You can see it in this picture. If you go over there there is a hole that looks like there was a sign pole. Maybe it said no parking. It could have said anything.

Alderman Guinta asked have you received any written response from St. Mary's or Dunkin Donuts about this.

Mr. Smart answered no I haven't sent a letter to them. I didn't really know...

Alderman Guinta interjected why don't you send them a letter seeing if because of the confusion and the fact that you are trying to be responsible about if they are willing to work with you as a matter of good public policy. I don't know if you are going to get anywhere with that but I think that Dunkin Donuts is locally owned.

Alderman Forest stated the property is not owned by Dunkin Donuts. The owner of Dunkin Donuts owns the property. I believe it is Dean Kamen...or Steve Kamen. He was the owner at one time.

Chairman Sysyn stated I think he sold the property.

Alderman Guinta stated you can find out downstairs who owns it and send them a letter and see if there is something they are willing to work out. Again, I would like to help you. I don't know that there is any authority we are going to have over it. The only thing we can do is consider a change in sign requirements. We are actually doing a study on that right now. Alderman O'Neil has also asked about signage in the City in general and we can add this to that study to see what changes should be made in the City. The recommendation probably wouldn't come until September and then we could act upon it then. I am happy to note it as an issue that has come before this Committee.

Mr. Smart responded I think that would be great so that it doesn't happen to someone else and I can continue my...you know try to talk to Dunkin Donuts and see if I can find a manager of someone over there.

Alderman Forest stated as Alderman Guinta said you can probably write a letter to both St. Mary's and Dunkin Donuts and see what you can do. Your chances may be good because we can't do anything.

Alderman Smith stated Mr. Smart I want to thank you for coming here. I commend you for it but you know our hands are tied. I certainly sympathize with you. My guess is that the towing company just patrols that on weekends and that is what happened. They probably checked the car out and came back later on and checked it out. Your best bet is to communicate with either St. Mary's or Dunkin Donuts and go from there. You certainly have our best wishes but our hands are tied. If it was on City property there might be something we could do.

On motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to receive and file the communication.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Discussion relative to a request of the Friends of the Valley Cemetery to park a storage box in the alley between the east and west wings of the City Hall Complex from August 23, 2005 until September 15, 2005.

Chairman Sysyn stated I believe John Woods is on vacation. I thought somebody else was going to speak to this.

Alderman Forest asked do you want to table this.

Alderman Smith stated the size of the box is 20' x 8' and they want a parking space between City Hall and the Annex. I don't know if Tom Lolicata can tell me but would that take up two parking spaces there?

Mr. Lolicata responded I think it would take two.

Alderman Smith stated and we only have three parking spaces in the alley right.

Chairman Sysyn asked he wants to park it in the alley.

Alderman Smith answered it says between City Hall and the Annex.

Alderman Guinta asked does he want to store the benches in there in the evening.

Chairman Sysyn stated he wants to store them so he can sell them. Aren't they selling these to raise money for the Valley Cemetery?

Alderman Guinta asked can the benches themselves be stored in the building or is that not appropriate. I mean they are regular park benches, correct?

Alderman Forest stated I haven't seen them. I would rather make a motion to table this until we get someone here to talk to us about it.

Alderman Guinta asked what happens if they need to get an emergency vehicle through there.

Chairman Sysyn asked would they be able to get a fire vehicle through there Tom.

Alderman Forest stated I want to say it is a standard sized construction dumpster or a storage trailer. That would take all three spots.

Alderman Guinta asked how wide are the parking spots. They are not 8' wide. Is it 5'?

Mr. Lolicata answered 8'. The length is 20'.

Alderman Guinta replied I am talking about the spot. What is the dimension of a parking space?

Mr. Lolicata responded a parking stall is roughly 8' and it goes from 22' to 26' per parallel parking.

Alderman Guinta stated it doesn't seem that big. It is not like I am driving a limo to work. I have a pretty small car.

Mr. Lolicata stated that is the norm. If it is 20' long I still say it is going to take up, because of the situation, close to two of the parking spaces.

Alderman Forest stated they have to bring in a truck to back it in. They are not going to be able to back it in all the way to the back of this building.

Mr. Lolicata responded I don't know if the truck will even go into there.

Alderman Forest replied well it is on the other side of the arch but still if they have to back it in they have to leave space to come and get it. I have seen them. We had one in there for awhile didn't we when we were cleaning up City Hall here? It took up all three spots.

Alderman Forest moved to table this item. Alderman Guinta duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Clerk Fysh stated I would like to mention that they are looking to place this trailer on August 23. I am not sure when your next meeting is.

Chairman Sysyn stated I believe it will be the second Tuesday in August.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

STOPS SIGNS:

On Brockton Street at Brook Street, SWC
Alderman Smith

PARKING – 10 MINUTES - NO TRUCK DELIVERIES:

On Massabesic Street, north side, from a point 35 feet west of Cypress Street to a point 50 feet west
Alderman Osborne

PARKING – ½ HOUR:

On Massabesic Street, north side, from a point 85 feet west of Cypress Street to 334 Massabesic Street
Alderman Osborne

PARKING – ½ HOUR (8AM-6PM):

On Elm Street, east side, from Sterling Street to a point 30 feet north

NO PARKING:

On Massabesic Street, north side, from Cypress Street to a point 35 feet west
On Spruce Street, south side, from a point 105 feet east of Cypress Street to a point 75 feet east
Alderman Osborne

On Harvard Street, south side, from Lincoln Street to a point 230 feet east
Alderman Shea

NO PARKING (8AM-NOON/MON-SAT):

On Lowell Street, north side, from Walnut Street to Union Eastback Street
On Walnut Street, west side, from Lowell Street to a point 100 feet north
Alderman Sysyn

NO PARKING (7PM-6AM/7 DAYS):

On Green Street, north and south side, from Elm Street to Willow Street
On Grove Street, north and south side, from Elm Street to Willow Street
On Summer Street, north and south side, from Elm Street to Willow Street
Alderman Guinta

NO PARKING – LOADING ZONE:

On Cypress Street, west side, from a point 30 feet north of Massabesic Street to a
point 30 feet north
Alderman Osborne

RESCIND NO PARKING:

On Green Street, north and south side, from Elm Street to Willow Street
On Summer Street, north and south sides, from Elm Street to Willow Street

On motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to
approve the Traffic agenda.

TABLED ITEMS

10. Communication from Alderman O’Neil relative to installation of traffic
signs in residential neighborhoods.
*(Note: Tabled 03/14/2005. This item was referred to Planning, Police and
Traffic Department for further review and possible implementation of a
city-wide policy.)*

This item remained on the table.

11. Discussion relative to Enhanced State 911 Systems.
*(Note: Tabled 02/08/2005 pending further information from the Fire
Department.)*

This item remained on the table.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by
Alderman Guinta it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee